U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Upper Mississippi River

National Wildlife & Fish Refuge



Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife & Fish Refuge has been a haven for fish, wildlife and people since 1924. The refuge stretches 261 river-miles from Wabasha, Minnesota, to near Rock Island, Illinois, protecting 240,000 acres of Mississippi River floodplain.

This national and international treasure hosts:

- 306 species of birds
- 250+ bald eagle nests
- 5,000 heron and egret nests in 15 colonies
- 50% of the world's canvasback ducks
- 20% of eastern U.S. tundra swans
- 51 species of mammals
- 42 species of freshwater mussels
- 119 species of fish
- 3.7 million annual visits for hunting, fishing, wildlife observation and other recreation

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